

services related to the rehabilitation of individuals with disabilities, including, as appropriate, establishing interagency working groups or entering into formal interagency cooperative agreements with, and using the services and facilities of—

(i) Federal agencies providing services related to the rehabilitation of individuals with disabilities, including the Social Security Administration, the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs of the Department of Labor, and the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

(ii) State and local public agencies providing services related to the rehabilitation of individuals with disabilities, including State and local public agencies administering the State's social services and financial assistance programs and other State programs for individuals with disabilities, such as the State's developmental disabilities program, veterans programs, health and mental health programs, education programs (including adult education, higher education, and vocational education programs), workers' compensation programs, job training and placement programs, and public employment offices.

(2) Interagency cooperation under paragraph (b)(1) of this section, to the extent practicable, must provide for training for staff of the agencies as to the availability, benefits of, and eligibility standards for vocational rehabilitation services.

(3) If the State unit chooses to enter into formal interagency cooperative agreements developed under paragraph (b)(1) of this section, the agreements must—

(i) Identify policies, practices, and procedures that can be coordinated among the agencies (particularly definitions, standards for eligibility, the joint sharing and use of evaluations and assessments, and procedures for making referrals);

(ii) Identify available resources and define the financial responsibility of each agency for paying for necessary services (consistent with State law) and procedures for resolving disputes between agencies; and

(iii) Include all additional components necessary to ensure meaningful cooperation and coordination.

(c) *Reciprocal referral services with a separate agency for individuals who are blind.* If there is a separate State unit for individuals who are blind, the State plan must assure that the two State units establish reciprocal referral services, use each other's services and facilities to the extent feasible, jointly plan activities to improve services in the State for individuals with multiple impairments, including visual impairments, and otherwise cooperate to provide more effective services, including, if appropriate, entering into a written cooperative agreement.

(Authority: Secs. 101(a)(11) and 101(a)(22) of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 721(a)(11) and 721(a)(22))

§ 361.24 Coordination with the Statewide Independent Living Council.

The State plan must assure that the State unit will coordinate and establish working relationships with the Statewide Independent Living Council established under 34 CFR part 364 and with independent living centers within the State.

(Authority: Sec. 101(a)(33) of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 721(a)(33))

§ 361.25 Statewidelessness.

The State plan must assure that services provided under the State plan will be available in all political subdivisions of the State, unless a waiver of statewidelessness is requested and approved in accordance with § 361.26.

(Authority: Section 101(a)(4) of the Act; 29 U.S.C. 721(a)(4))

§ 361.26 Waiver of statewidelessness.

(a) *Availability.* The State unit may provide services in one or more political subdivisions of the State that increase services or expand the scope of services that are available statewide under the State plan if—

(1) The non-Federal share of the cost of these services is met from funds provided by a local public agency, including funds contributed to a local public agency by a private agency, organization, or individual;